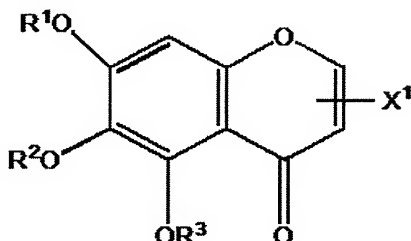


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound according to formula I :



(I)

wherein:

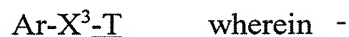
R¹ and R³ are each independently H, lower alkyl, -SO₃H, or -PO₃H₂ ;

R² is selected from hydrogen, -SO₃H or -PO₃H

~~or R¹ and R² together with the atoms to which they are bound form a methylenedioxy group ;~~

~~or R² and R³ together may form a 5-7 membered heterocycle with the atoms to which they are bound form a methylenedioxy group; and~~

X¹ is bound in the 2- or 3- position and is of the formula :



Ar is furanyl, thienyl, pyridyl, cyclohexyl or benzyl and X³ is a substituent on the ortho, meta, or para position of the phenyl ring and is H, C, N, NR', NR'R'', NR'SO₂R'', or O; wherein R' and R'' are each independently H, or lower alkyl ; and OR¹ is O(CH₂)_nY, wherein n is 1 to 2, Y is OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶; or O[CH₂CH (OH) CH₂]Y, wherein Y is H, OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶; wherein T is Y or [CH₂CH (OH)

CH₂]Y, Y is H, OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶ wherein R⁴, R⁵, and R⁶ are each independently H, or lower alkyl, and R⁵ and R⁶ together may form a 5 to 7-membered ring; or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, ~~subject to the proviso that the compound according to formula I is not baicalein or 5, 6, 7-trihydroxyisoflavone or a compound wherein X³ is hydroxyl-substituted phenyl or~~

Ar is phenyl and X³ is a substituent on the ortho, meta, or para position of the phenyl ring and is C, N, NR'SO₂, R'', or O; wherein R' and R'' are each independently H, or lower alkyl; and OR¹ is O(CH₂)_nY, wherein n is 1 to 2, Y is OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶; or O[CH₂CH(OH)CH₂]Y, wherein Y is H, OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶; wherein T is Y or [CH₂CH(OH)CH₂]Y, Y is H, OR⁴, NR⁵R⁶, COOR⁴, or CONR⁵R⁶ wherein R⁴, R⁵, and R⁶ are each independently H, or lower alkyl, and R⁵ and R⁶ together may form a 5 to 7-membered ring; or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, subject to the proviso that X³T is not OR', or NR'R'' wherein R' and R'' are each independently H, or lower alkyl.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R¹, R² and R³ are each independently-SO₃H or-PO₃H₂.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The compound wherein the compound is 4'- (N,N-

dimethylamino)-5, 6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'- (methylamino)-5, 6,7- trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[N-methyl-N-(3-methoxypropyl)amino]-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[N,N-di-(2-hydroxyethyl)-amino]-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-(2-methanesulfonatoethylamino)-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-[2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethylamino]-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 2,3-diphenyl-5,6,7-trimethoxychromone, 2,3-diphenyl-5,6,7-trihydroxychromone, 4'-(methylsulfonamido)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethoxy]-6,7-methylenedioxy-5-hydroxy-flavone, 4'-(2,3-dihydroxy-propyloxy)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, or 4'-(Carbomethoxymethoxy)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 1 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously PresentedCurrently Amdended)(Currently amended)A method of treating diseases associated with overproduction of TNF- α selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented)(currently amendeA)method of treating liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage or combinations thereof resulting from over production of TNF- α or superoxide anion raidacals comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective

amount of a compound according to claim 1.

19. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

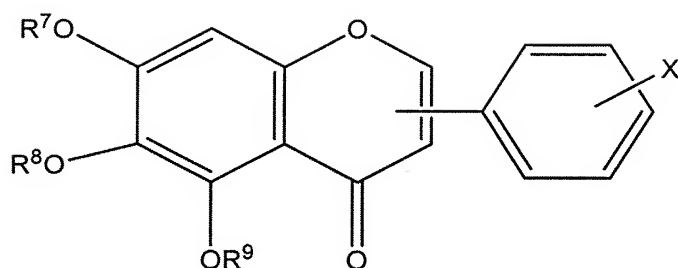
27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Currently Amended) A method of treating conditions selected from the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF- α , overproduction of superoxide anion radical and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula V:



(V)

wherein: ~~R⁷, R⁸, and R⁹~~ R⁷, R⁸, and R⁹ are each independently H, lower alkyl, -SO₃H, -PO₃H₂; ~~or R⁷ and R⁸ together with the atoms to which they are bound form a methylenedioxy group~~ or

~~R⁸ and R⁹ together with the atoms to which they are bound form a methylenedioxy group ;~~

X¹ is a substituent on the ortho, meta, or para position of the phenyl ring and is H, C, NH₂, NHCOCH₃, or OR¹⁰, wherein R¹⁰ is H, lower alkyl, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

32. (Cancelled))

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the compound is 5,6,7- trihydroxyisoflavone, 4',5,6,7- tetrahydroxyflavone, or 4'-amino -5,7-

dihydroxy-6-methoxy flavone.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with at least one other therapeutic agent useful for the prevention or treatment of conditions associated with overproduction of TNF- α , and liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage. [[.]]

45. (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally or parenterally.

46. (previously presented) A method of treating conditions selected from the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF- α and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of baicalein-6-sulfate, baicalein-6,7-disulfate, baicalein-6-phosphate, baicalein-6,7-diphosphate, baicalein-5,6,7-triphosphate, sodium and potassium salt derivatives thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Cancelled))

49 (Cancelled)

50 (Cancelled))

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 46, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with at least one other therapeutic agent useful for the ~~prevention or~~ treatment of conditions associated with overproduction of TNF- α .

53. (Original) The method according to claim 44, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally or parentally.

54. (previously presented) A method of treating conditions selected from the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF- α , and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of compound as in Claim 11.

55. (Cancelled)

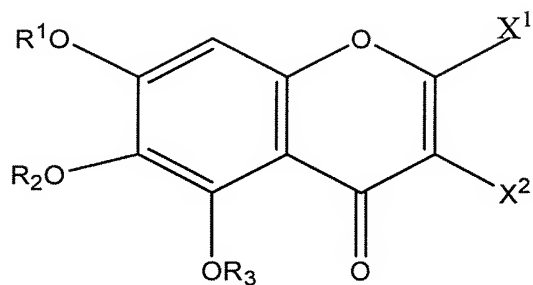
56. (Cancelled)

57. (Cancelled)

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Currently amended) A method of treating liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage resulting from over production of TNF- α or superoxide anion raidacals which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



wherein R_1 is selected from hydrogen and alkyl;

R_2 is selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl and sulfate or R_1 and R_2 together with the atoms to which they are bound form a methylenedioxy group;

R_3 is selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl and sulfate;

X_1 is selected from hydrogen, phenyl and substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is hydroxyl, alkoxy, amino, mono or dialkyl substituted amino, hydroxyl alkoxy, or aminoalkoxy

and X_2 is selected from hydrogen and phenyl, and X_1 and X_2 can not both be phenyl.